

Notice of Allowability

Applicati n No.

09/577,007

Examin r

Andrew Schechter

Applicant(s)

FUJIOKA ET AL.

Art Unit

2871

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the filing of 11 May 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-6 and 8-15.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 24 May 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-6 and 8-15 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art does not disclose the device of claims 1 or 15. In particular, the prior art *Ochi* discloses using "another system with other supply voltage" [paragraph 0024] to provide the DC voltage to the electrode pattern, rather than providing an electrical signal from at least one of a power supply for a source driving circuit and a power supply for a gate driving circuit, as recited in the previous claim 7. Claims 1 and 15 are therefore allowed, as are claims 2-6, 11, and 14 which depend from claim 1.

Similarly, the prior art does not disclose the device of claim 10, in particular the limitation that an electric signal which is input to the electrode pattern is supplied from at least one of a power supply for a source driving circuit and a power supply for a gate driving circuit. Neither *Mitsui* nor *Kikuchi*, as previously applied to claim 10, discloses this feature, and *Ochi* discloses instead using "another system with other supply voltage" as discussed above. Claim 10 is therefore allowed.

The prior art does not disclose the device of claim 8, in particular the limitation that the electrode pattern for adsorbing an ionic impurity provided over the insulating film is divided into a plurality of segments all on the same substrate. Claim 8 is therefore allowed.

Art Unit: 2871

Claims 9, 12, and 13 recite the electrode pattern for adsorbing an ionic impurity being only along 2 or 3 particular sides of the display, which is not disclosed by the prior art (*Tanaka* and *Ochi* disclose the electrode pattern on all four sides, *Kikuchi* discloses it only on one side, that recited by the present claim 10). Claims 9, 12, and 13 are therefore allowed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.


In previous Office Actions, the examiner relied upon foreign references JP 5-323336 to *Kikuchi et al.* and JP 11-038389 to *Ochi*. In so doing, the examiner used machine-translations of the documents which are now being made of record.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andrew Schechter whose telephone number is (571) 272-2302. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 9:00 - 5:30.

Art Unit: 2871

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert H. Kim can be reached on (571) 272-2293. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Andrew Schechter
13 May 2004


ROBERT H. KIM
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800